H6ISP: Introduction to Social Policy in Early Childhood Education

Module Code:	H6ISP
Long Title	Introduction to Social Policy in Early Childhood Education APPROVED
Title	Introduction to Social Policy in Early Childhood Education
Module Level:	LEVEL 6
EQF Level:	5
EHEA Level:	Short Cycle
Credits:	5
Module Coordinator:	
Module Author:	Jane Liu
Departments:	NCI Learning & Teaching
Specifications of the qualifications and experience required of staff	

Learning Outcomes	
On successful completion of this module the learner will be able to:	
#	**Learning Outcome Description**
LO1	Demonstrate a clear understanding of how Social Policy is created and implemented in Ireland.
LO2	Discuss the impact Social Policy has in shaping society.
LO3	Identify the key influencers on Social Policy which impacts directly and indirectly on children from birth to six years of age.
LO4	Demonstrate knowledge of current Social Policy in Ireland as it specifically relates to children.

Dependencies
Module Recommendations
No recommendations listed
Co-requisite Modules
No Co-requisite modules listed
Entry requirements	

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Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content

What is Social Policy?
What is Social Policy, where it can be found in society, how is it created and implemented in Ireland? Definition of Social Policy. What drives the creation of Social Policy? What government departments are responsible for identifying and recognising the need for policy? Exploration of the Social Policy Cycle in relation to children.

Influencers
Exploration of the various areas of social policy, how they are interrelated and how they can impact on the child. Who/what are the key influencers of Social Policy in relation to children. Groups such as Barnardo's, Start Strong, Early Childhood Ireland, and Children's Rights Alliance advocate on behalf of children and the family, how do they make their voice heard, what channels do they use? Looking at the roles children and parents have in influencing social policy. Examining Social Policy which relates to children at a macro level and a micro level within and outside Ireland. Learners will appreciate that Social Policy is fluid and dynamic, is not something they have no control over and that they themselves are the advocates for children's needs and rights.

Current Social Policy which impacts on children's lives in Ireland
Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children & Young People 2014 – 2020; Right from the Start: The National Early Years Strategy for Children 0-6 years; Child & Family Relationship Act 2015, Free Preschool Year; Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025

Assessment Breakdown	%
Coursework	100.00%

Assessments

Full Time

Coursework

Assessment Type:	Project	**% of total:**	100
Assessment Date:	n/a	**Outcome addressed:**	1,2,3,4
Non-Marked:	No		

Assessment Description:
Describe how Social Policy is created in Ireland and illustrate this by researching and reporting on creation, implementation and impact of a current Social Policy (2500 words)

No End of Module Assessment

No Workplace Assessment

Reassessment Requirement

Coursework Only
This module is reassessed solely on the basis of re-submitted coursework. There is no repeat written examination.

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Module Workload				
Module Target Workload Hours 0 Hours				
Workload: Full Time				
Workload Type	*Workload Description*	*Hours*	*Frequency*	*Average Weekly Learner Workload*
Lecture	per week	2	Once per semester	0.17
Independent Learning	No Description	8.5	Once per semester	0.71
			Total Weekly Contact Hours	0.17
Workload: Part Time				
Workload Type	*Workload Description*	*Hours*	*Frequency*	*Average Weekly Learner Workload*
Independent Learning	No Description	8.5	Once per semester	0.71
Lecture	per week	2	Once per semester	0.17
			Total Weekly Contact Hours	0.17

Module Resources

Recommended Book Resources

Considine, M., Dukelow, F.. (2009), Irish Social Policy, A Critical Introduction, Gill & Macmillan, Dublin.

Yeo, A., Lovell, T.. (2007), Sociology and Social Policy for the Early Years, Hodder Arnold, U.K..

Recommended Article/Paper Resources

Fine-Davis, M.. (2007), Childcare in Ireland Today: Briefing Paper to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions,
http://www.ictu.ie/publications/fulllist /childcare-in-ireland-today-briefing-pap er/

Goodbody Economic Consultants. (2011), Evaluation of Initial Implementation of Síolta, Final Report,
https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Coll eges/nformation/Early-Years/Siolta-Evalu ation-Final-Report.pdf

HSE. Healthy Ireland - A Framework for Improved Health & Wellbeing 2013-2015,
http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publicati ons/corporate/hieng.pdf

Department of Health & Children. (2014), Right from the Start, Expert Advisory Group on the Early Years Strategy Presentation to the Joint Committee on Health and Children,
http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/medi a/committees/healthandchildren/Expert-Ad visory-Group-OS.pdf

Department of Children and Youth Affairs. (2011), Life as a Child and Young Person in Ireland,
http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/childyo uthparticipation/life_a_child_in_ireland /Life-as-a-child-in-ireland.pdf

Oireachtas Library & Research Service. (2012), Early Childhood Education and Care in Spotlight No. 4 April 2012,
http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/medi a/housesoftheoireachtas/libraryresearch/ spotlights/spotEarlyEd180412.pdf

National Economic and Social Forum. (2005), Report 31, Early Childhood Care and Education,
http://files.nesc.ie/nesf_archive/nesf_r eports/NESF_31.pdf

Start Strong. (2013), "Right from the Start" Recommendations of the Expert Advisory Group,
http://www.startstrong.ie/files/startstr ong_policy_brief_2013_web.pdf

Start Strong. (2013), Shaping the Future,
http://www.startstrong.ie/files/st017_re port_full_web.pdf

Mhic Mhathúna, M. & Taylor, M. (2012), Social Policy and Early Childhood Education and Care., Early Childhood Education & Care.

UNICEF. (2008), Report Card 8 Innocenti Research Centre A League Table of Early Childhood Education and Care in Economically Advanced Countries,
http://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/5 07

Urban, M., et al.. (2011), Competence Requirements in Early Childhood Education and care,
http://www.vbjk.be/files/CoRe/Final/Repo rt/2011.pdf

Supplementary Article/Paper Resources

TRAVERS, J.. (2007), Social Policy and the Welfare State,
http://www.indymedia.ie/article/81302

Other Resources

[Website], Citizens Information Service. Departments of State,
http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/gov ernment_in_ireland/government_department s/departments_of_state.html

[Website], National Children's Database.
http://www.childrensdatabase.ie

Discussion Note: